

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Division of Soil Conservation (Division), through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), is requesting Letters of Interest (LOI) and Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) for project design development and construction oversight in the Abandoned Mine Land Program (AML). In the AML program, the Division is responsible for utilizing federal grant monies to reclaim lands that were disturbed by past coal mining activities. The main objective of the AML Reclamation Program is to mitigate priority features that present a danger to the health and safety of the general public.

At this time, the Division is seeking professional services from consultants for site design development and construction oversight. Activities include, but are not limited to: 1) developing the reclamation design, which would include multiple meetings with affected landowners; 2) preparing final plans and construction specifications to implement the approved design; and 3) providing oversight of a contractor's activities during active construction. Typical AML sites include rough terrain comprised of acidic spoil and gob piles, inconsistent vegetation, pits, ponds, highwalls, silted-in ponds and streams, and unstable slopes.

The Division is requesting that any engineering and design consulting firms interested in receiving a Request For Proposal (RFP) submit four (4) copies each of a LOI and SOQ demonstrating their interest and ability in providing professional services relating to the development of abandoned coal mine site reclamation plans. The LOI and SOQ must contain the following information:

1. brief history and organizational framework of the firm;
2. brief resumes of key personnel;
3. office location(s);
4. previous experience in working for private landowners as end-point clients;
5. experience with and knowledge of mass grading projects, establishing vegetation and erosion protection of poor quality soils, hydrologic and hydraulic design and delineation of water bodies and wetlands, slope stability, exploratory geotechnical drilling, and construction observation services; and
6. previous experience in designing abandoned mine land projects or similar projects.

The LOI and SOQ must be received by the Division no later than close of business, 4:30 PM, on August 30, 2013, at the following address:

Mr. Todd A. Coffelt, Chief
Mines and Minerals Bureau
IDALS-DSC,
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

All submittals received after this time and date will not be accepted by the Division for this round of selections. If the LOI and SOQ do not contain the required information, they will be considered unqualified and subsequently removed from the list of potential applicants for this round of selections. If an applicant is deemed unqualified based on these criteria, the applicant will be notified in writing.

Relevant project information will be made available to those consultants selected to continue in the process. Selected applicants will be invited to a mandatory field day (September 10, 2013) and an oral interview (September 11 and 12, 2013).

Those firms who have worked with the Division on AML projects before and have previously submitted an SOQ must submit the requested LOI and SOQ to be considered for this opportunity.

Questions concerning the LOI and SOQ should be directed to Susan Kozak, (515) 242-5003, and must be received prior to 4:30 PM on August 30, 2013. All questions submitted, and their respective answers, will be provided to all interested parties by reference at <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/requestForBids.asp>.

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